

VZCZCXYZ0019  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHFR #1863 2821624  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 081624Z OCT 08  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4461  
INFO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1618  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PARIS 001863

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [MARR](#) [AF](#) [FR](#)  
SUBJECT: FRENCH SUPPORT STREAMLINING U.S. COMMAND AND  
CONTROL IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: A. STATE 106861  
[B](#). PARIS 1750  
[C](#). PARIS 1853

[1](#). (U) Sensitive but Unclassified - Not for Internet  
Distribution.

[2](#). (SBU) During the recent visits to Paris of USDP Eric  
Edelman (ref B) and General David Petraeus (ref C), both men  
raised with their French interlocutors the recent designation  
of General McKiernan as ISAF as well as OEF commander in  
Afghanistan. French officials from the Elysee, MFA and MOD  
all agreed with the reasoning behind the decision to  
streamline internal U.S. command and control arrangements in  
Afghanistan by dual-hatting General McKiernan and they  
expressed support for the USG decision. (Embassy comment:  
The U.S. command and control structure modifications were  
viewed as a purely practical decision by the GOF and the  
announcement did not raise any concerns among French  
decision-makers).

STAPLETON